



September 15, 2022

Federal Trade Commission
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20580

To Chair Khan, Commissioner Phillips, Commissioner Slaughter, Commissioner Wilson, and Commissioner Bedoya:

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The United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (USHCC) acts as a champion and advocate for Hispanic communities in an effort to ensure individuals, businesses and community groups are represented in all matters which affect them. Today, as the FTC seeks a policy on the gig economy, the Hispanic Chamber stands before you to address the immense positive impact the gig economy has had on Hispanic communities.

The USHCC actively promotes the economic growth, development, and interests of more than five million Hispanic-owned businesses that, combined, contribute over \$800 billion to the American economy every year. We also serve as a platform for our nationwide network of over 260 local Hispanic chambers of commerce.

The gig economy provides people the flexibility to earn when and where they want and work in a way that fits their personal life. This flexibility and ease of access has driven the appeal and growth of this new dynamic industry for the very communities we represent. Even before the pandemic, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimated that 55 million Americans, nearly 36% of the total U.S. population, sought independent contractor work with various on-demand commerce companies.

Underserved communities experience an unequal burden when it comes to economic barriers, including barriers to entry into new lines of work. The gig economy has removed so many of those barriers and lifted our communities by increasing access to earning opportunities in a flexible manner. Gig platforms represent a sector of the economy growing at nearly three times the national average rate and offer almost limitless potential to those taking advantage of the on-demand economy.

By ignoring these very apparent and monumental advantages of the gig economy, the FTC runs the risk of burdening communities which so often get left out of crucial policy work. For the sake of our communities and our people, it is the USHCC's duty to clearly note the irrefutable positive impact that the gig economy has had on the business potential of Hispanic communities across the country.

Thank you for your service and partnership in supporting our minority owned businesses across the country. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out. We commend you for your leadership and look forward to a positive outcome on this important matter.

Respectfully,

Ramiro A. Cavazos
President & CEO
U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce